

**LAST VEGAS**  
By Lorraine Viade, Psy.D.



*Last Vegas* is a charming vehicle that truly highlights the acting talents of the living legends who make a life-changing road trip. Michael Douglas, Morgan Freeman, Robert De Niro and Kevin Kline all shine bright in this sentimental and honest approach to May-December romance, getting older, losing and finding love, and aging gracefully. Unlike most movies that are just meant to showcase a particular actor, these men are still in their acting primes. Because they are so good at what they do, the story is honest and believable. I went to the matinee on a holiday Monday. The theater was filled and I sat next to an older woman who enjoyed the romp as much as I did. The social commentaries about trying to stay young by marrying young, and taking what you have at home for granted are highlighted in a very insightful way.

Adding to all of this old bromance is the delightful Mary Steenburgen. What a hottie. Smart, sexy and with a great singing voice, she is living proof that the total package lives after 30! Finally Hollywood is giving props to the mature woman. We need more films depicting love in later life not as quirky fantasy a la Woody Allen, nor as outrageous social commentary a la Harold and Maude, but realistic and honest without all of the stereotypes that leave older babes at the bar – alone. Mostly though, *Last Vegas* is all about friendship, loss, misunderstanding and what it takes to overcome the ghosts of the past in order to move into a realistic future.

The emotions and situations ring true and are a refreshing break from the contrived dialogue that people tend to give to aging characters. There is still enough silliness and

foolishness to be totally entertaining. I think that this is the perfect date movie for young and mature alike. Make an effort to spend a few hours with some great talents. *Last Vegas* is the perfect quick get-away trip from whatever ails you. So pull up your arm rest, dig into some popcorn and candy, and prepare yourself to feel like a real winner. I hope that *Last Vegas* won't be the last time we see these greats together.

I give *Last Vegas* four roulette wheels. Take a chance!

